

TRAFFORD ISSUES REPLY TO EXPERTS

Consulting Engineer Presents Lengthy Statement, Attacking Conclusions Reached By Messrs. Sever and Willis.

Mr. E. W. Trafford, consulting engineer, yesterday issued a formal reply to the reports of Messrs. Sever and Willis touching the proposed municipal electric plant for Richmond, advocated by Alderman Dabney and many other members of the City Council. Mr. Trafford says:

Mr. W. T. Dabney, Member of Board of Aldermen, City of Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir: At your request I have examined and submitted my reply to the reports of Mr. George F. Sever and Mr. E. J. Willis, concerning the proposed municipal electric plant, which appeared in the issue of the Times-Dispatch of 2nd instant.

Each of these reports contains valuable evidence of the wisdom of establishing such a plant, when the errors which are apparent in both reports are eliminated. This I shall endeavor to do in this reply.

The figures given by Mr. Sever need careful study and the erroneous items eliminated. The annual inspection will show that he plays "fast and loose" with the interest and depreciation accounts and with my estimate generally, and that in some instances he is inconsistent with his own theories. For instance, he gives new figures for depreciation based upon the work which he and two other engineers did in New York. He applies this basis to the machinery proposed to be installed at the Old pump-house, but uses my figures which are lower, for the machinery to be installed at the New pump-house, even though in many instances the machinery is of identical character in the two cases. This, of course, I cannot assent to and I have made corrections both in the estimates for and against the electric plant accordingly.

Mr. Sever has added to my estimate the sum of \$5,000 per annum for interest on the assumed value of the Old pump-house property when used for an electric plant. The property in question is owned by the city and was paid for many years ago. The electric plant is likewise to be owned by the city, so we have an analogous case to a man charging himself with rent of his own house. There is no objection to this, but if a man were to do so for, say, one month, and not do so the next and think thereby that he was saving money, he would simply be deceiving himself. Who is paying this now? The water department, if any? Who would pay it if an electric plant were not built? The water department, since it would be reserved for the future use of that department.

Therefore, allow Mr. Sever to make this charge against the electric plant— but charge it also against the water department in the alternative scheme of postponing the building of an electric plant. This is a simple matter of book-keeping, for if one department is charged with the property another must receive credit whilst to the city as a whole it is a matter of indifference what department pays this charge. The matter is only of value in keeping the accounts of the various departments correct between themselves.

Three engineers and one committee have now reported that the city should retain this property, and I take it that its sale would not be considered for one moment. Therefore, having the property, their expenses of the city are the same whether the property be utilized or not, whether it remains idle.

Mr. Sever introduces two fictitious charges against the electric plant. One of these is for power lost in transmission from the old pump-house to the city, which he has assumed to have omitted. In this he is in error. I have made no such omission and a very simple arithmetical calculation, coupled with a little engineering, would have convinced Professor Sever that transmission loss is included in my estimate. The professor seems to have

Resolved:

THAT I'LL SEE

Buster Brown and Tige,

at Albert Stein's Shoe Store Tuesday, January 8th, at 2 P. M.

Yes, the real, live Buster and Tige will give a FREE reception to every boy and girl in Richmond—and to the grown people, too—

Buster and Tige will tell you all about Buster Brown Blue Ribbon Shoes for boys and girls. Also the White House Shoes for men and women.

REMEMBER THE DATE AND THE HOUR, TUESDAY, JANUARY 8th, AT 2 P. M. And it's FREE—absolutely FREE—to all.

Albert Stein,

FIFTH AND BROAD STS.

Place

the Responsibility

of your awakening at the proper time on J. T. Allen's

\$1.00

Alarm Clock

This clock is not of the 69c variety. It is fully guaranteed. We have a limited number of these clocks, which we will sell at the above mentioned price as long as they last.

J. T. Allen & Co.

14th and Main.

fully and completely answers. It was not intended, nor did the city ask or expect to pay for, specifications of an electric plant, although it seems to have been a sufficient guide for Mr. Sever to clearly duplicate my results. It is to be considered as supplementary to my former report, and other information, plans and specifications which the committee had in their possession, and which I have detailed in the general engineering methods which I proposed to employ. It is, therefore, unfair to judge by a portion of the work alone.

My relation to the city of RICHMOND is not that of an advocate presenting a proposition to capitalists. The credit of proposing this plant belongs to others, and neither have I sought to have any connection therewith. I am rather in the position of one of whom business men have referred a proposition requiring a business answer, and therefore I have endeavored to avoid engineering technicalities except where they become necessary.

E. J. WILLIS'S REVIEW. Mr. Willis, employed by the Times-Dispatch, does not appear to have been so successful as Mr. Sever in ascertaining facts for or against the proposed plant. He, however, endorses the plan as the proper thing to do—some day.

Mr. Willis gives his ideas of municipal ownership generally but this is a matter for those in charge of the city government to decide and has nothing to do with engineering. I judge that he knows little of practical politics for whoever heard a committee trying to throw the responsibility of expending an appropriation on some other committee? And yet this is the reason he assigns for the endorsement of the electric proposition by the water department.

Mr. Willis thinks the plant unnecessary for the reason "that if negotiations were properly opened the present company would surely secure the 275 kilowatts per hour." Mr. Willis evidently did not confer much thought on this or he could have seen that at this price the cost to the city would be more than double that at which the city could produce it for itself, including the cost of the plant and the maintenance of the arc lights.

Mr. Willis doesn't think the city should build now, because it will be cheaper to equip the New pump-house, but no figures are given in support of his contention. He also thinks the city should not build a plant now because the cost of labor and material is high. If this view were generally accepted business, instead of being as now in the best of it has ever been, would soon come to a standstill, and general prosperity would give place to hard times. We should then have the low prices and accompanying poverty which prevailed twelve years ago. Nothing could do the country greater harm than such a policy as Mr. Willis advocates, and his views are being generally disregarded for manufacturing interests are crowded with orders and there are no indications, as far as I can learn, of a change.

The technical questions which Mr. Willis suggests are not of general interest, and consist of details which can be finally settled at the proper time. Finally, Mr. Willis thinks the complete plant would cost \$350,000, against which I would say that the appropriation asked for is \$240,000.

In conclusion, the confirmation obtained from Mr. Sever's report as to the cost of the plant, and the substantial agreement of his operating estimates, when cleared of improper charges, amply sustain the wisdom of the original council committee in giving the electric plant method their endorsement as in the interest of public policy, and superior to any other plan which has been suggested for meeting the city's needs for pumping facilities and lighting.

Mr. Willis's general endorsement of the method is also of value as corroborating the general methods which I have outlined.

Yours very truly,

E. W. TRAFFORD,

Consulting Engineer.

Addendum:

I have omitted to call attention to the fact that Professor Sever, not content with charging interest on the Old pump-house property and failing to charge it against the water department in the alternative proposition, has charged it twice against the electric plant. See his tabulated statement of interest, sinking fund and depreciation, amounting to a total of \$4,741, in which one of the items is interest on the Old pump-house property, \$4,000. Then refer to his total cost of operation statement, in which he uses the above total of \$4,741, and again adds thereto 4 per cent. interest on \$150,000 or \$2,250.

This error against the electric plant in this item alone amounts to \$12,000.

All-Day Meeting.

An all-day holiness meeting will be held to-day in the West End Rescue Mission, No. 806 West Cary Street. Services will be held at 11 A. M., 3:30 and 8 P. M. All welcome.

FINE RECORD MADE BY

INSURANCE COMPANY

Virginia Institution Has Made

Notable Strides During the

Past Year.

Last year The Times-Dispatch had occasion to congratulate President Walker and the other officers of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia upon the company's honorable record and splendid exhibit for 1906, and wished for it still greater prosperity and triumphs for 1907.

The statement of the company, published in to-day's paper, shows that the gross income on January 1, 1907, was \$2,215,651.07, an increase of \$251,690.32; increase in assets for the year to \$27,500,741; total insurance in force \$54,607,581; an increase of \$4,486,304; number of policies in force, 413,651; increase, 39,143.

The pyramid, which has become so familiar to the friends of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, now shows a premium income of more than \$2,000,000, with an increase for the year of \$228,501.35. In 1887 the premium income was \$99,660, but there has been a steady increase from year to year, until the two-million mark has been passed. Since the organization of the company, the total amount paid to policyholders amounted to \$7,346,967.78.

The total assets of the company to-day are \$2,338,858.65; the total liabilities, \$2,466,595.82, leaving a surplus to policyholders of \$502,062.73.

This statement is gratifying no less to the people of Richmond than to the company itself, for it shows that the company is a solid financial institution, and that, if they are conducted on business principles and with efficiency and fidelity, their prosperity is assured.

The Life Insurance Company of Virginia is an example and an inspiration. It is a worthy institution, because it has not only helped its patrons to a lesson of thrift; has not only met all its obligations promptly and agreeably; but has not only lived righteously and prudently, but it has established in the city of Richmond an institution which gives employment to large numbers of men and women who are forced to earn their own livelihood, and has surrounded itself with an atmosphere so pure and refined that it has become a sort of social institution in itself, and it is an honor to any girl to be a member of the force.

The
Woman's
Store

Julius Sytle's Sons
201 and 203 E. Broad Street

MAIL ORDERS
Your orders and inquiries by mail receive prompt and careful attention of competent salespeople. Write to us for any merchandise you may require. If not satisfactory, return at our expense.

Julius Sytle's Sons
201 and 203 E. Broad Street

The
Men's
Store

Open a Charge Account

Family Outfitters Head to Foot

Our Credit System Like a Bank

Men's Hats, \$1



Remarkable values—remarkable styles—to let you know we are handing Men's Hats is the reason we are giving such good values in stiff and soft.

Men's Pants, \$1

Price would cause you to judge not a very good pants, but reason why we sell \$2.50 pants at \$1.00.

We want you to become acquainted with this department. Every pair well made, in worsted and corduroy; the style will be on sale at \$1.00.

Sweet, Orr, Overalls, 75c.

Union made Overalls, 50c.

Corsets

Fit and comfort guaranteed in American Lady. Don't need to pay fancy prices to secure that perfect fit and comfort that every woman demands in corset. The price, \$1.00. Even our most moderate priced Corset, 50c, possesses the styles.

Corset Waist—Boys' and Girls' H. & W. F. P. and Nazareth, 25c.

Infants' Wear

Infants' Short Dresses, yoke with five tucks and Val. insertion ruffle round yoke, with Val. insertion and lace; skirt with two rows of Val. insertion and tucks, with Val. edge, \$2.75.

Infants' Short Dresses, yoke of Hamburg, with ruffle of same; skirt with five tucks with Hamburg ruffle, for \$1.89.

Infants' Short Dresses of Persian lawn, embroidered yoke, square edge with fancy beading, deep hem at bottom of skirt, for \$1.25.

Infants' Short Dresses, yoke pointed effect of insertion, with hemstitching round yoke, with deep hem in skirt, 89c.

Infants' Long Dresses

Infants' Long Muslin Dresses, yoke of Val. and beading, with narrow ruffle of Swiss; skirt with Swiss around the bottom, for \$2.25.

Infants' Long Dresses, with hand embroidered yoke, with ruffles of same goods, with tucks in the bottom of skirt ruffled with Val. insertion and lace, for \$3.75.

Infants' Long Dresses of Nainsook, yokes Val. and insertion, with beading tucks in bottom of skirt with deep hem, for \$1.25.

All College Hats and Tam o'Shanter hats were 65c, 85c and \$1.00, for 25c.

Hose Supporters, Shields

Kleinert's Hose Supporters, sold during holidays, 10c pair.

50c Belt Hose Supporters, made with very best material; special, 25c pair.

Stocknet Shields—Do not mind your dress when you can buy 15c Shields for 5c pair.

Men's Shirts

Stiff Percale Bosom Shirts, \$1.00 value go at 39c.

Men's Wool Drawers, all colors; sold \$1.25 to \$2.00; slightly soiled, 75c.

Men's Wright Wool Fleece Shirt and Drawers, \$1.25 grade, 89c.

An Important Sale of Women's Suits

EVERY COAT AND SKIRT MARKED DOWN

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suit of velvet, coats made blouse effect, with trimming of wide silk braid; sleeves full, with deep cuff; skirt nine gore; was \$37.50, now \$25.00.

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suit of different mixtures, coat empire effect, with strap; regular coat sleeve; skirt seven gore; was \$16.00, now \$12.00.

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suit of tan chiffon broadcloth, coat empire effect, lined with white satin; regular coat sleeve; was \$56.00, now \$35.00.

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suit of black cheviot cloth, coat pony effect, with plaits and front with fancy welt; puff sleeve, with deep cuff; skirt seven gore, plaited; was \$29.50, now \$21.50.

Ladies' Coats

Ladies' Light Tan Coats, 3-4 length, with loose back, yoke tucked to form fancy effect, and sleeve tucked; was \$14.00, now \$10.50.

Ladies' Plaid 3-4 Coats, loose back, with velvet collar, regular coat sleeve, with turn back cuff of velvet; was \$10.00, now \$7.50.

Ladies' Plaid Coat, 3-4 length, trimmed with red, loose back and front; was \$7.50, now \$5.50.

Ladies' Evening Coat, 3-4 length, colors gray, white and black, made of handsome broadcloth, with white satin lining, trimmed elaborately with panne velvet and silk braid; was \$50.00, \$60.00 and \$62.00, now \$25.00 to \$31.00.

Muslin Underwear

Ladies' Nainsook Gowns, embroidered and lace yokes; very neat garment, at \$1.69.

Ladies' Cambric Gowns, torchoned tucked and embroidered yokes, very elaborately trimmed, only \$1.25.

Ladies' Tucked and Val. Trimmed Gowns, all sizes, \$1.00.

Ladies' Skirts, two rows torchon lace and tucks forming a deep ruffle, at \$1.25.

Ladies' Nainsook Skirts, ruffled, of Swiss embroidery and tucks, at \$2.75.

Ladies' Embroidered Skirts, made of cambric, only \$1.50.

Great reduction in Corset Covers.

Ladies' Lace and Embroidered Corset Covers, sold as high as \$1.00, now 50c.

Wrapper Sale

Ladies' Percale Wrappers, trimmed in beading and ruffle on bottom of skirt in blue, red and black, at 69c.

Ladies' Percale Wrappers, trimmed in beading and ruffle over the shoulder; made of nice material, at \$1.19, in all colors.

Ladies' Flannellette Wrappers, in very pretty patterns, and trimmed in beading and ruffles, at \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Handkerchiefs

Lucky purchase enables us to offer some lucky bargains. Even if you have a supply, you can't afford to miss these wonderful bargains.

Men's, Ladies' and Children's White hemstitched and colored bordered Handkerchiefs, 5c and 6c grade, 2c.

Ladies' Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, sale price, 5c.

Ladies' Hemstitched Embroidered Handkerchiefs, 10c value, 8c.

Men's White Plaid Handkerchiefs, regular 25c kind, 12 1/2c.

A Great Fur Sale

Reliable Furs at sensible prices. But there is no reason why some of them should be as high priced as most stores try to make them. Note the way we price ours. Whatever price you pay, you can rest assured you are getting furs way down in price and furs guaranteed.

Astrakhan Sets, was \$13.00, now \$11.00.

Ermine Muffs, \$5.00.

Black Muffs, was \$3.00 and \$4.00, now \$1.00.

Black Marten Muffs, was \$18.00, now \$9.00.

Children's Angora Sets, \$1.25 and \$2.50.

Children's Gray Muffs, now \$2.00.

Children's Brown Sets, ermine trimmed, now \$6.00.

Isabella Fox Rolls, were \$38.00, now \$25.00.

Isabella Fox Rolls, were \$21.00, now \$14.00.

Isabella Fox Scarfs, were \$15.00, now \$10.00.

Isabella Fox Scarfs, were \$35.00, now \$18.50.

Isabella Fox Scarfs, were \$18.00 and \$19.00, now \$12.00.

Black Marten Scarfs, trimmed with cords and tails, were \$38.00, now \$25.00.

Squirrel Throw Scarfs, were \$12.00, now \$9.00.

A Glove Sale

Opportunity never again may come. Why not take advantage? \$1.00 Gloves, 50c. Come in colors. White Kid, Tan Kid, Undressed Kid, Black, Red, Tan, Gray and Mode colors.

Black and White Long Silk Gloves (Kaysers), \$1.50.

Black and White Long Gloves, 12c, \$1.00.

Long White, Black, Tan and Gray, 12-button length, Gloves, \$3.00 and \$3.50.

12-button length, in gray, \$2.89.

Children's Worsted Gloves, in blue and black; sold 25c pair, 14c.

Kaysers Knitted Worsted Gloves, in all colors; real 50c kind, 39c.

Window Shades

Closing out this department, every Shade, at one-half price.

50c Shade, best roller, best make, best spring, complete, 25c.

42c Window Shade, complete, 19c.

\$1.00 Shades, complete, 50c.

Hair Combs

Plain and Fancy—Every Fancy Comb sold 25c; sale price, 17c.

Sale of Men's Clothing

An extra good buying chance in Men's Suits—a fortunate turn of trade brought it our way. Were we to give the name of this celebrated clothing, we need to say no more but mention price. But that would be violating confidences. This splendid clothing is the equal of custom-made, both in style, workmanship, fit and finish.

Suit sold \$30.00 and \$35.00, now \$25.00.

Suit sold \$22.50 and \$25.00, now \$20.00.

Suit sold \$18.00 to \$20.00, now \$15.00.

Suit sold \$12.50 to \$15.00, now \$9.00.

Every Overcoat Marked Down at One-Third.

